

UCL
6 June 1986
0830

TALKING POINTS

- Spent billions--recruited thousands.
- Built American intelligence capabilities to an unprecedented capability.
- We can cover the world every day, know the details of the weapons the Soviet Union has targeted at us.
- We know the terrorist organizations and how some governments support and use them as an instrument of foreign policy and we are frequently able to warn of and defeat planned and attempted attacks on innocent civilian and American installations around the world.
- We understand and are able to follow how the Soviets and the Cubans and other Soviet allies and proxies extend their power and influence, destroy freedom and try to perpetuate oppressive regimes in Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.
- In the dangerous world in which we live this capability is a priceless asset essential to the safety of our citizens and the security of our nation.
- Over recent months and years, even as we build and improve this capability, it has been damaged and diminished by the public disclosure of sensitive classified information.
- Every intelligence capability we have has been damaged--our photographic, our electronic, our communications, the people and the intelligence services of other countries who provide us with information.
- Media reports show the Soviets and other countries, the terrorist, narcotics and spy organizations around the world how to deny us the information our country needs, how to hide weapon development and deployment from our cameras, where to secure and reroute their communications, how to frustrate our electronics. They jeopardize

the lives and safety and cause to turn away from cooperation with us people and other nations who share our values and purposes. Unless we can cauterize this hemorrhage of legitimate secrets we will soon imperil our safety and our position in the world.

- It's the task of our government and my special duty to accomplish this with the assistance of the other senior officers of our government.
- The National Security Act makes me legally responsible for protecting intelligence sources and methods.
- Three things are needed to accomplish this:
 1. We need to plug the leaks at the source. That means stronger and more effective discipline in the handling of sensitive information in our government and investigation and penalties for those who violate their trust.
 2. It requires closer cooperation with the media to avoid or mitigate jeopardy to lives and our nation's security from the sensitive information which will continue to leak out or otherwise become available.
 3. It requires enforcement and perhaps strengthening of the legal protection Congress provides for information critical to national security.
- All of us support and applaud the function of the media and the ingenuity and diligence of reporters in exposing inefficiency, waste and corruption and bringing our people the information they want and need for their self government.